

## NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2008



### NEW RESEARCH PROPOSAL SOLICITATIONS

The Arizona Transportation Research Center (ATRC) is ramping up its annual research proposal development process. Proposals for research may be submitted to ATRC at any time. ATRC project managers are available to assist with proposal preparation. There is a link on the ATRC web site which can be used to submit a research proposal ([http://www.azdot.gov/tpd/atrc/research/suggestion\\_form.asp](http://www.azdot.gov/tpd/atrc/research/suggestion_form.asp)). Proposals may also be submitted to the ATRC manager or an ATRC Project Manager. In addition to these informal processes, ATRC Project Managers conduct formal proposal solicitation activities for each research emphasis area. These formal activities include meetings with key groups or individuals within the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) and research emphasis area workshops.

Each proposed research statement is evaluated by an ATRC project manager. Project managers work with the individual or group submitting the research statement to refine it and insure that all the elements of the research statement are included in the document.

Major proposals which survive the initial screening processes are evaluated by the ADOT Research Council during June of each year. The highest rated proposals are funded first until the available funds are allocated.



Noise Measurement Instrumentation (Project SPR-577)

### State Planning and Research (SPR) Projects

#### SPR-615, ITS CONCEPTS FOR RURAL CORRIDOR OPERATIONS

Based on earlier studies, five focus areas were identified to improve Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) in rural areas of Arizona. These are: Maintenance, Weather Information Systems, Highway Advisory Radio, Motorist Assist Patrols, and Information Sharing. Using interviews and state-of-the-practice research components, the investigators developed a list of ITS concepts that might service the rural needs of the Department. Each of the five focus areas contains several concepts that address needs identified as original project goals, or new topics identified during the field interviews. Discussion sections provide a conceptual approach and application of ITS technology or state-of-the-practice development, a breakdown of benefits and challenges for implementation, implementation recommendations, and a breakdown of the engineer's opinion of cost. Each concept has been ranked by the project advisory group based on implementation priority. A potential process owner and potential resources for deployment are also identified.

### COMPLETED PROJECTS

All recent published reports and many archival reports are available online at:

[www.azdot.gov/TPD/ATRC/Publications/project\\_reports/index.asp](http://www.azdot.gov/TPD/ATRC/Publications/project_reports/index.asp)

### ATRC LIBRARY

ATRC library information, including the library catalogue, is available online at:

<http://www.azdot.gov/TPD/ATRC/library/index.asp>

### STAFF ACTIVITIES



Jason Harris obtained his Project Management Professional (PMP) certification from the Project Management Institute (PMI) in December. "Obtaining the PMP certification meant more to me than just passing a four hour exam. It meant I

successfully demonstrated my project management skills to earn a globally recognized credential," says Jason.

PMI's mission is: To advance the practice, science, and profession of project management throughout the world in a conscious and proactive manner. To find out more about PMI or the PMP exam, visit PMI's website:

[www.pmi.org](http://www.pmi.org)

Veteran ATRC project manager, Steve Owen, retired from ADOT on January 10, 2008. Steve directed the Intelligent Transportation System research area. His skill and dedication will be difficult to replace. The best wishes of ATRC and ADOT go with Steve



**MISSION:** The ATRC mission is to pursue and share knowledge in transportation systems and programs.

### ATRC Staff

Frank Darmiento, M.S.E., P.E. –  
Manager

#### PROJECT MANAGERS

Christ Dimitroplos, P.E.

Jason Harris, PMP, P.E.

Tom Kombe, Ph.D., P.E.

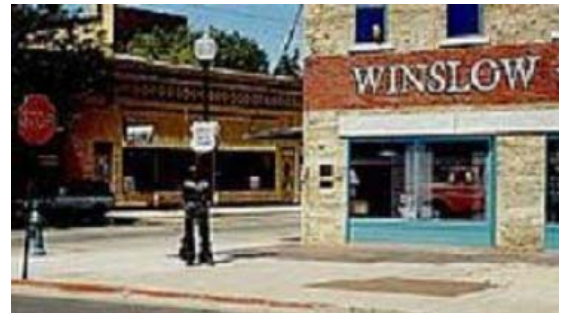
John Semmens, M.A., MBA

#### VACANT

Dale Steele, M.A., M.L.S. – Librarian

Christopher Gass, B.S. – Data  
Technician

Louis Casillas – Engineering Assistant



Standin' on a corner in Winslow, Arizona

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